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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/716,943 Confirmation No. : 6800  
Applicant : Bodo HOMANN, et al.  
Filed : November 20, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 3611  
Examiner : To Be Assigned  
Docket No. : 028987.52713US  
Customer No. : 23911  
Title : Removable Roof for a Motor Vehicle and Method of Making Same

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This supplements the Information Disclosure Statement submitted in the above-identified application on November 20, 2003.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

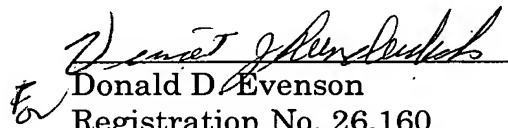
In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding foreign Search Report citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

September 16, 2004

  
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PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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| <b>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</b><br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(use as many sheets as necessary) |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                   |                        |                |
|   |   | Application Number       | 10/716,943        |                        |                |
|   |   | Filing Date              | November 20, 2003 |                        |                |
|   |   | First Named Inventor     | Bodo HOMANN       |                        |                |
|   |   | Art Unit                 | 3611              |                        |                |
| Sheet   | 1 | of                       | 1                 | Examiner Name          | To Be Assigned |
|   |   |                          |                   | Attorney Docket Number | 028987.52713US |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS          |                       |  |    |                                |  |   |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--|----|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup> | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          |    | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                                |                       | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |    |                                |  |   |
|                                | AA                    | US- 2002166235                           | A1 | 11-14-2002                     | TARAHOMI   |   |
|                                | AB                    | US- 5,052,743                            |    | 10-01-1991                     | INADA ET AL.                                       |   |
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|                                |                       | US-                                      |    |                                |  |   |
|                                |                       | US-                                      |    |                                |  |   |
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|                                |                       | US-                                      |    |                                |  |   |
|                                |                       | US-                                      |    |                                |  |   |
|                                |                       | US-                                      |    |                                |  |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                                |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials'       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |                |
|                          | AD                    | EP-1086882-A2   | 03-28-2001                     | MERITOR AUTOMOTIVE<br>GMBH                         |   |                |
|                          | AE                    | DE-3732581-A1   | 04-06-1989                     | BMW AG   |   |                |
|                          | AF                    | GB-2086316-A  | 05-12-1982                     | T.V.R. ENGINEERING LTD                             |   |                |
|                          | AG                    | DE-1804687  | 05-22-1969                     | THE BUDD CO  |   |                |
|                          |                       |   |                                |  |   |                |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                       |   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup>  | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |
|                                 | AH                    | EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT MAILED APRIL 19, 2004  |
|                                 |                       |   |

|                    |  |                 |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 If possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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